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Sen. Laura Toy announces free in-home preschool available through YWCA of Western Wayne County

LANSING – Free in-home preschool is available for parents and children in Garden City, Livonia, Redford Township and Westland, through the Michigan School Readiness Program and the YWCA of Western Wayne County, announced state Sen. Laura M. Toy, R-Livonia.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for busy parents who want to give their 4-year-old a leg up before entering Michigan’s K-12 education system,” Sen. Toy said. “This program helps to prepare young children for kindergarten and is provided free of charge to those who qualify.”

A child must meet only two of 25 criteria to qualify for free enrollment. Eligibility can be based on income, and/or certain other factors such as living in a single parent household, premature birth, or being a non-native English speaker.

The YWCA of Western Wayne County currently serves about 60 children in the program, but according to Sen. Toy there is funding available to enroll approximately 30 more students.

“The benefits of this program can include weekly home visits by a certified teacher, as well as monthly center visits and field trips,” Sen. Toy said. “There are also additional resources offered as part of the School Readiness Program including parent meetings and guest speakers.”

Parents may register children who will turn 4-years-old by Dec. 1. For more information, including complete eligibility details, please contact the YWCA of Western Wayne County at (313) 561-4110.

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Editor’s Note: Sen. Laura Toy is the recipient of the 2005 Women of Achievement Award for Government and Law from the YWCA of Western Wayne County.